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7 November 1946

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief, ICAPS

SUBJECT : Distribution of FBIS Daily Reports to the Press

1. ORE believes that it is advisable to modify the present policy of suppression of FBIS reports to the end that legitimate requests for these reports may be accommodated when received from newspapers, press associations, special press correspondents, collegiate institutions, and other organizations or individuals of like nature in the United States. This is in general agreement with the proposal from the Office of Operations, Section 4, and the recommendations in Section 5.
2. ORE, however, concurs with the suggestion from the Office of Collection and Dissemination that attempted screening of applicants would be unwise and would be difficult of justification and practical application.
3. The Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination has voiced a possible objection (accompanying memorandum, 1-c, Security) on security grounds, namely, that furnishing such reports might indicate coverage capabilities with reference to the capacity of CIG for monitoring foreign broadcasts. An objection along similar lines might be that since transcriptions of broadcasts by FBIS are along selected lines, a study thereof could conceivably indicate the trends of CIG interests and investigations. The Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination points out that objections of this nature do not appear particularly serious, and in this opinion ORE concurs.
4. The question also arises whether CIG, by its very nature, should engage in publicity arrangements of any kind and whether dissemination of FBIS material to public agencies should not better be effected through some such agency as the Information Division of the State Department.
5. In general, ORE believes that if FBIS remains under CIG control, CIG interests would be well served by the proposed concession to such influential organs as The Washington Post and other important agencies or individuals who might be served.

*See. + final draft*

J. KLAHR HUDDLE  
Assistant Director  
Reports and Estimates

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*Comments by [Signature]*

1. Concur that there is a security problem and risk as brought out in para. 3 of Mr. Huddle's letter.
2. Believe that the decision hangs on a balance between security risks and possible benefits, and that command decision is necessary.
3. Para. 5 may be slightly confusing as:
  - a. not absolutely clear that "its interests" means CIB interests
  - b. suggests a limitation of the recipients, in contradiction to para. 2 which opposes screening.

*76?*